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## TOP 12 STORIES OF THE YEAR



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ROB HAVENS '88

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BY ROB HAVENS '88

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**ON THE COVER:** Reed-Adams lifts Marcel Reed up in celebration after one of his three rushing touchdowns in the LSU victory. Photo by Rob Havens '88



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# Howdy Ags!

This issue wraps up the '24-'25 school year and inside we feature our top 12 stories of the year along with some of our favorite pictures. We want to congratulate Coach Pat Henry and the men's track & field team for bringing home their fifth national championship. We'd also like to congratulate our women's track & field squad for earning a third place finish at the NCAA Championships in Eugene, Oregon. The track teams helped give Texas A&M a No.15 finish in the Learfield Directors' Cup.

Coach Mark Weaver's women's tennis team once again returned to the national championship match in Waco and earned the runner-up title in this year's tournament.

As we enter the dog days of summer our football team is working hard in this heat to prepare for next season. Marcel Reed returns as our starting quarterback and the running game should be much improved with the comeback of Le'Veon Moss and a healthy Rueben Owens. They will line up behind one of the best and most veteran offensive lines in the country. With the wide receivers we added through the portal and under the direction of second year offensive coordinator Collin Klein we are expecting big things from the Aggie offense.

Coach Elko has committed to being much more involved in the defense next season. With our captain Taurean York anchoring the Aggie defense along with a veteran group in the defensive backfield and a D- line hungry to make a name for themselves, we are excited for our football team to take it to the next level.

Gig'em!

Rob '88



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**NATIONAL  
CHAMPION**

## NATIONAL CHAMPS

The Texas A&M Men's Track & Field Team, Head Coach Pat Henry, Director of Athletics Trev Alberts, assistant coaches and staff, pose with the championship banner in Eugene, Oregon. The men claimed their fifth national title and Coach Henry earned his 10th team title at A&M. Photo courtesy of Texas A&M Athletics.



**#NCAATENN**

## FRESHMAN ACE

Orlando, Florida product Lexington Reed was a consistent producer for this year's squad. She earned three SEC Freshman of the Week honors and finished her rookie campaign with a 29-9 singles record, including a 10-1 record in SEC play. Reed helped the Aggies to a National Runner Up finish at the NCAA tournament.

Photo by Rob Havens '88





## APPROACH, FORM, BALANCE, AND RELEASE

Shotputter Katie Weiser competes in the NCAA Regional held in College Station, Texas. A&M hosted the West First Round of the NCAA Championships which decided the athletes that would advance to the finals in Oregon. The women's team earned an impressive third place finish at the finals. Photo by Rob Havers '88

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## SOFTBALL

Texas A&M softball team had one of the best regular seasons of all time. They were also named the SEC Tournament Champion for the first time. As a result, the Aggies were rewarded with the #1 overall seed at the NCAA Tournament. In the College Station Regional, the Ags battled to the end against the Liberty Flames but fell short in the regional final 5-6 to end the season.



KENNEDY  
POWELL

## WOMEN'S TENNIS

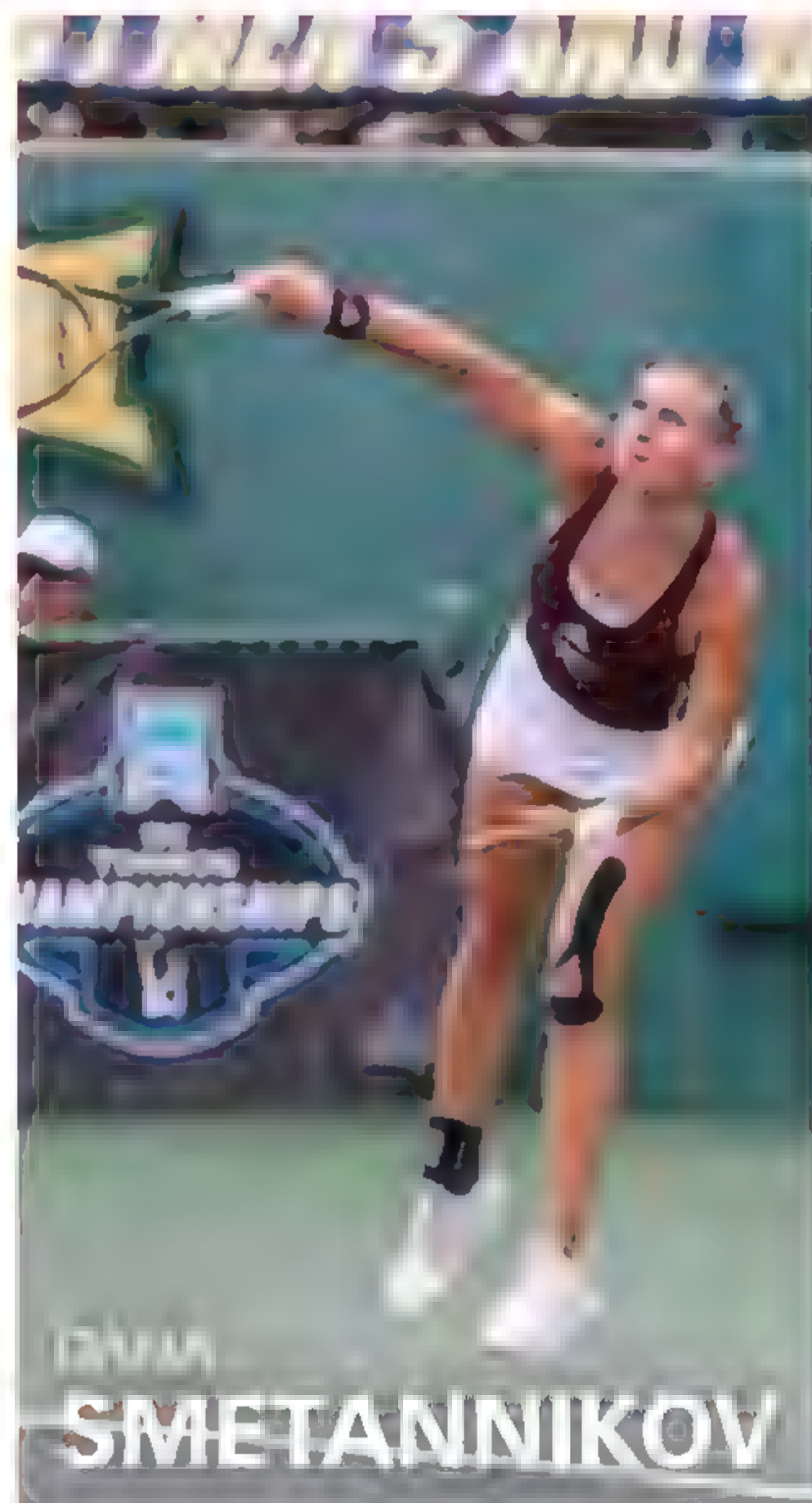
The defending national champion Aggies won their fourth SEC regular season title in a row in 2025. The #2 Aggies were victorious in five straight matches to earn a spot in the national championship final against the #1 Georgia Bulldogs. In a rematch of last year's final the Aggies fought hard but came up short to finish as the national runner-up.



MARY  
STOIANA



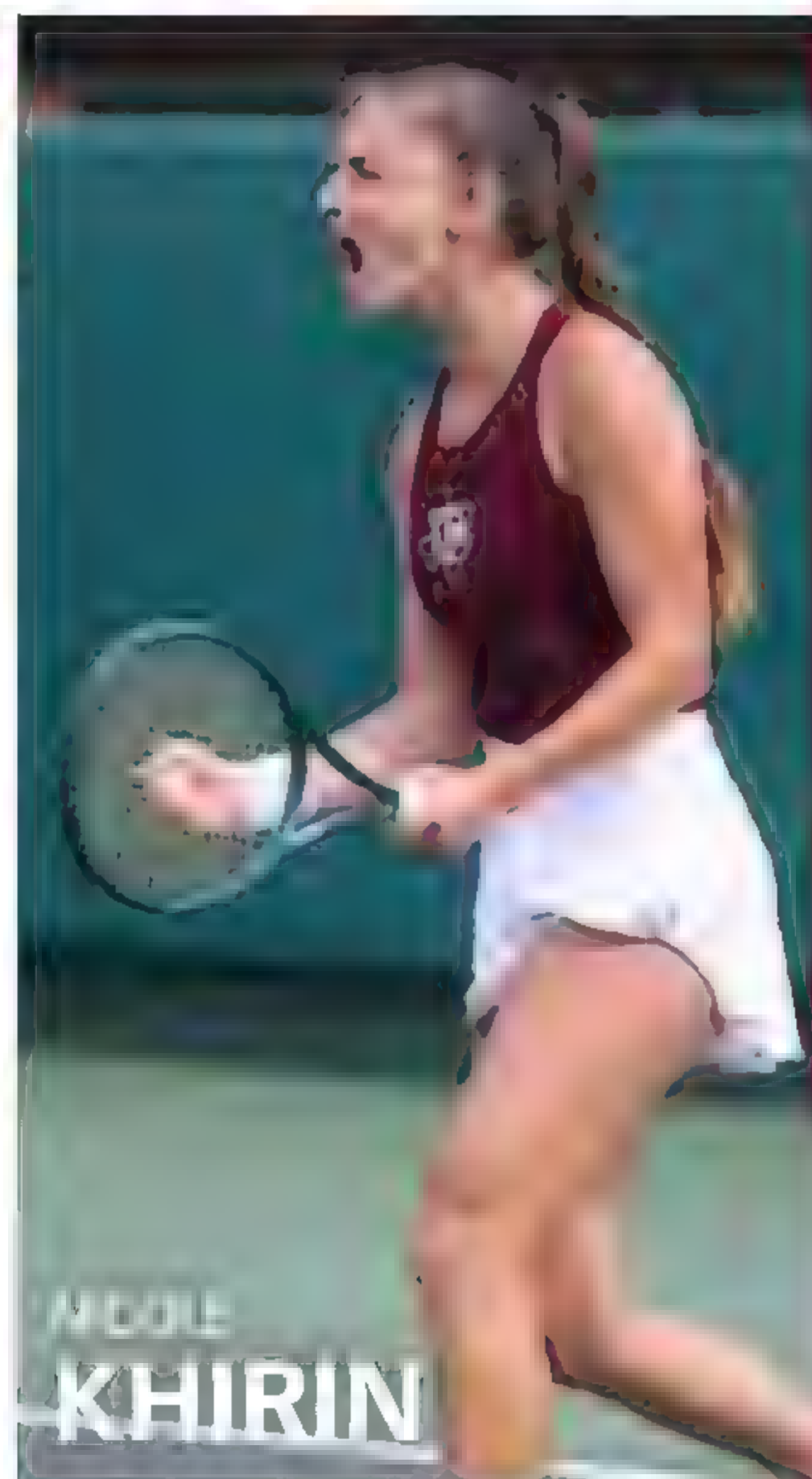
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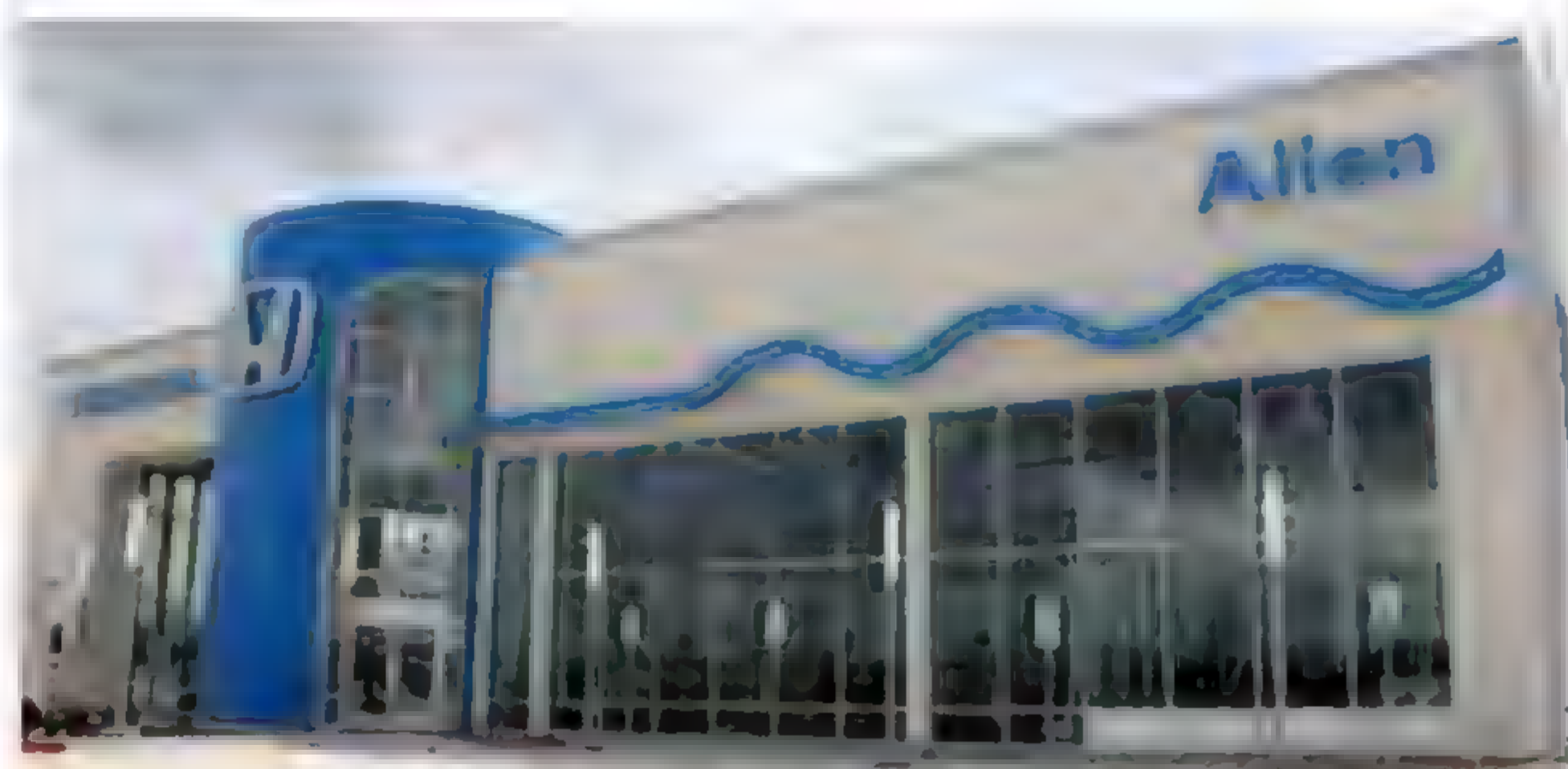
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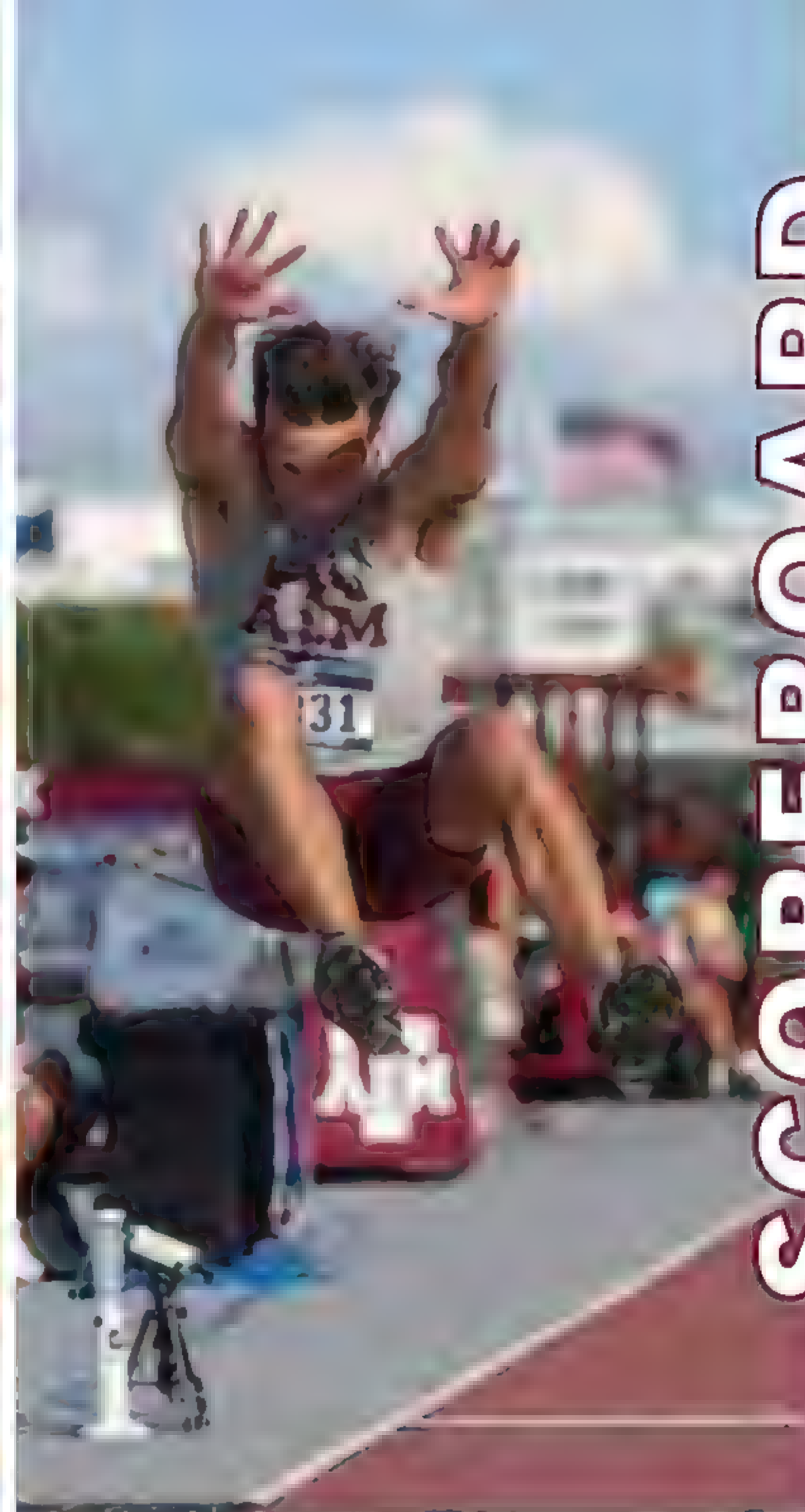
## TRACK & FIELD

The Aggies hosted the West Region NCAA Track Meet at E.B. Cushing Stadium. The men's team advanced eleven individuals and both relays to the NCAA Championships in Oregon. The men would compete and win their fifth team national championship in program history. The women punched 12 tickets to the National Championships and earned an impressive third place finish.



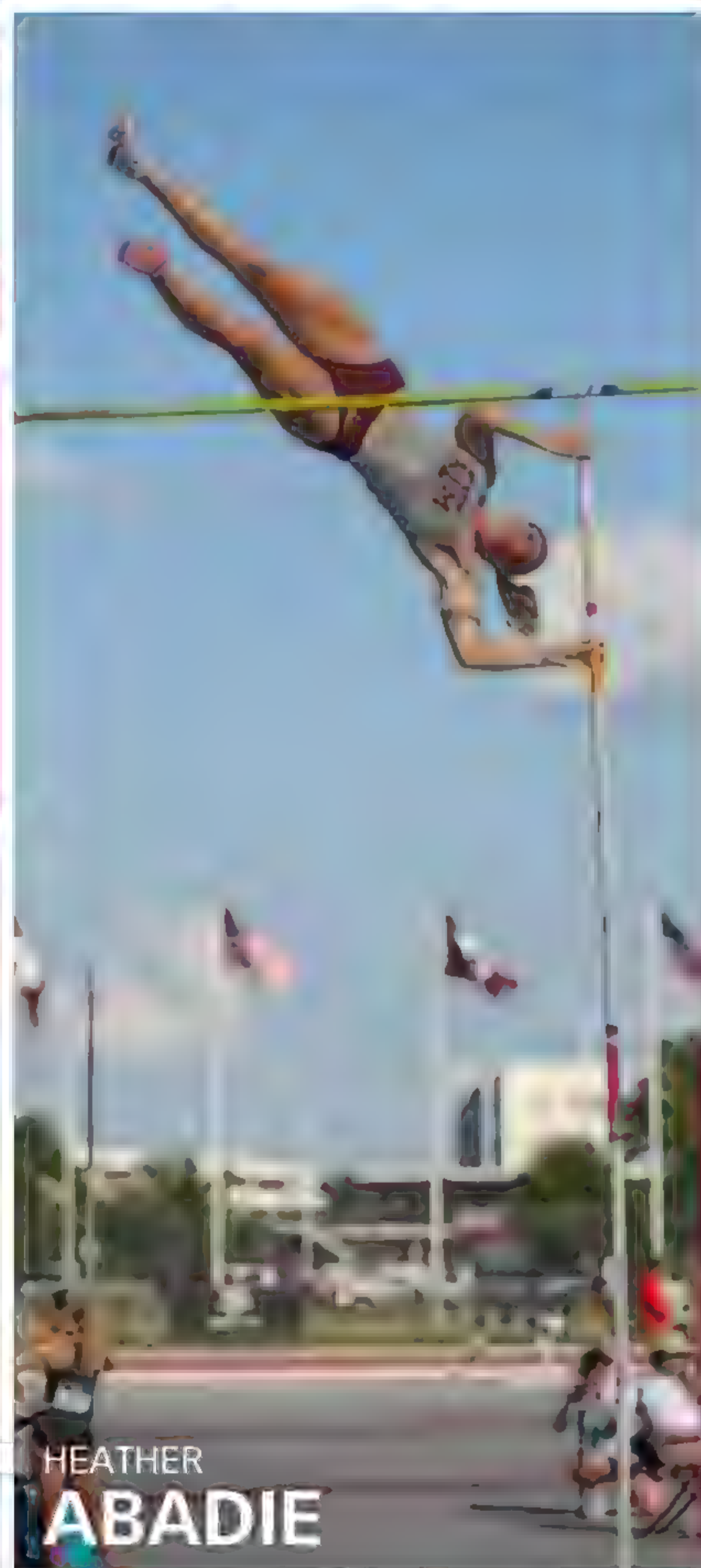
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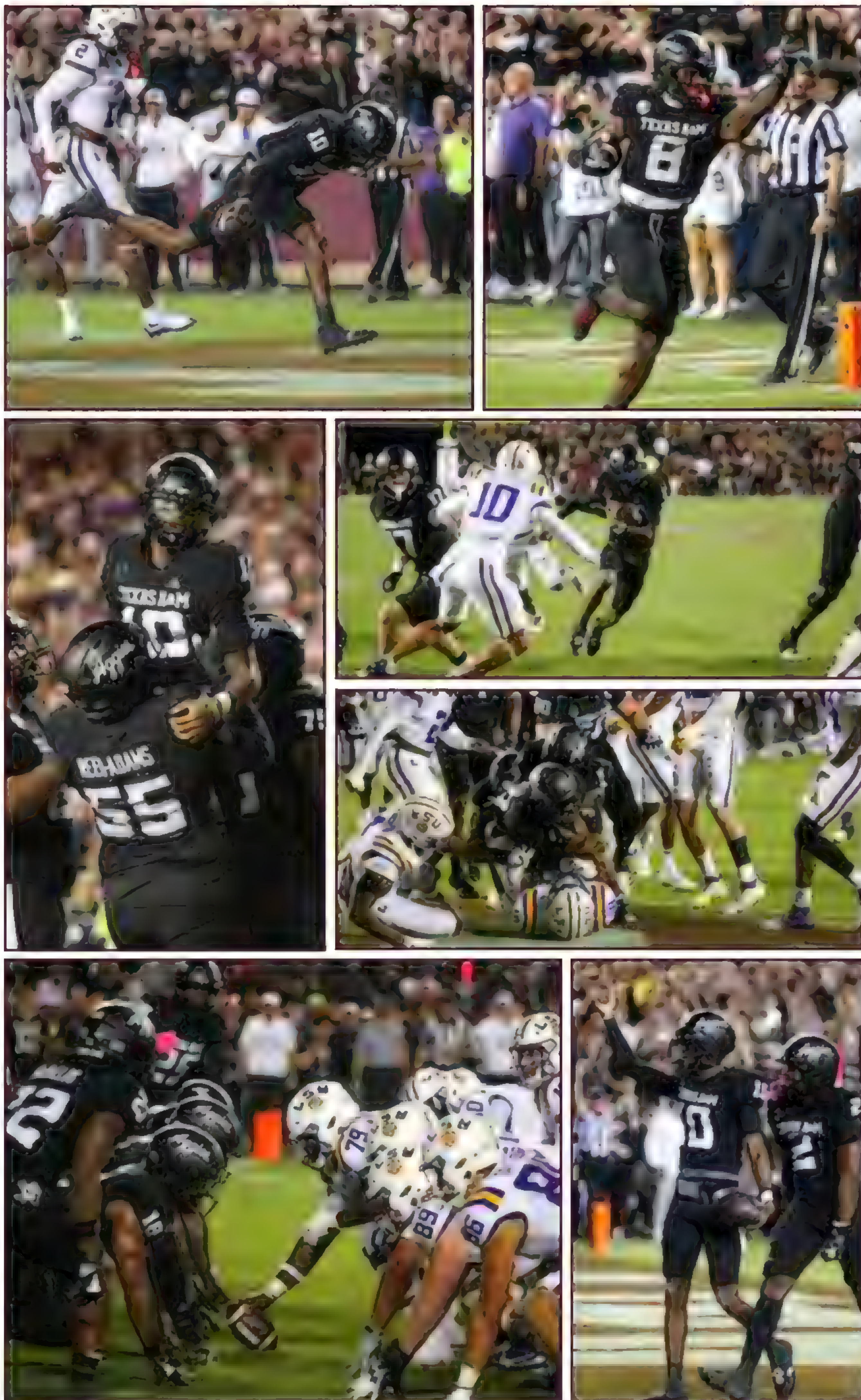


# MAROON & WHITE GAME

The 12th Man got their first look at the 2025 football team when the Aggies competed in the Maroon & White Game on April 19th. Freshman Marco Jones displayed his talents on the White team, as the talented freshman had five sacks. At wide receiver, Izaiah Williams hauled in four catches for 51 yards and a touchdown in the Whites 19-7 victory. Standouts for the Maroon squad included KC Concepcion, who led all receivers with seven receptions for 64 yards, while Mississippi State transfer Mario Craver added 78 yards on five catches. Marcus Ratcliffe led the defense with six tackles. Returning wide receiver Ashton Bethel-Roman scored the only touchdown on the day for the Maroon squad when he reeled in a 15-yard score. ■



# AGGIELAND ILLUSTRATED'S TOP 12 STORIES OF THE YEAR



1

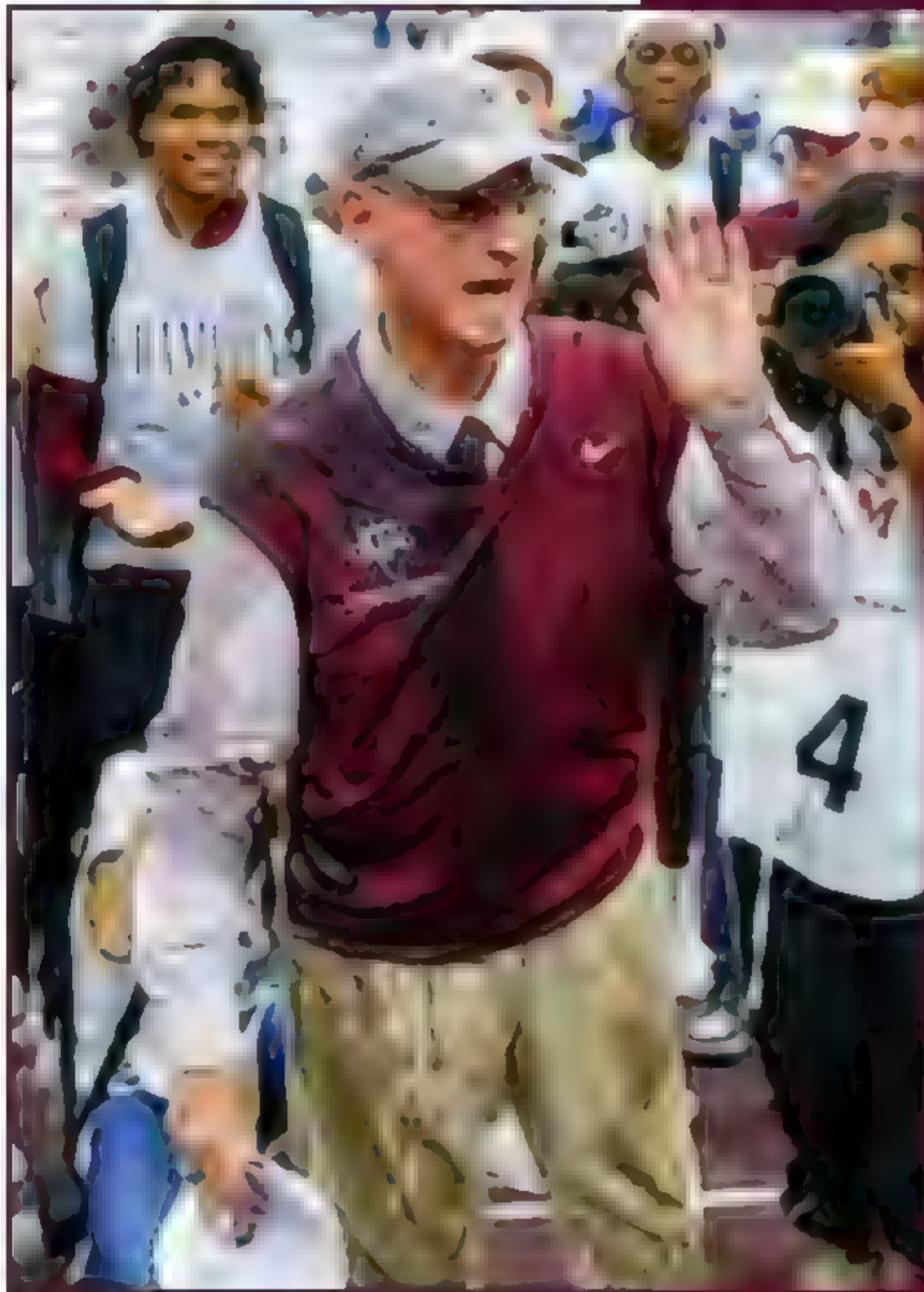
## REED LIFTS AGGIES TO VICTORY OVER LSU

Texas A&M trailed 17-7 in the second half vs #8 LSU when first year coach Mike Elko made a change at quarterback. Redshirt freshman Marcel Reed answered the call, scoring three rushing touchdowns and leading the Aggies to a 38-23 win over the Tigers.

# 2

## MEN'S TRACK WINS NATTY & FIRST INDOOR SEC CHAMPIONSHIP

The men's track team added some significant hardware to the trophy case when they won their first SEC Indoor Championship this spring. They followed that feat by bringing home the team national title from the NCAA Championships in Eugene, Oregon. It was the men's fifth outdoor crown and Coach Henry's tenth leading the program.





# 3

## "BUCKY BALL" COMES TO AGGIELAND

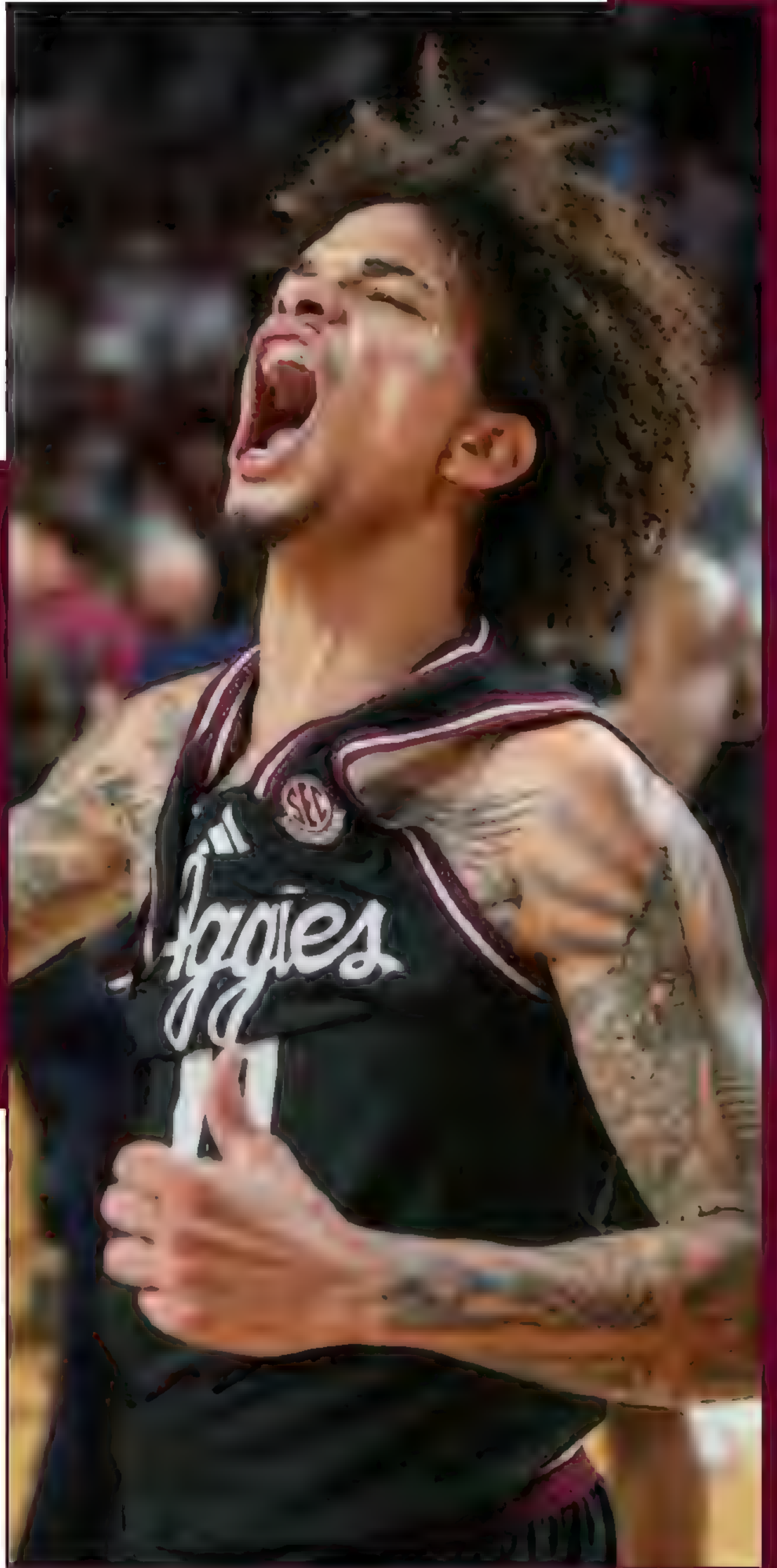
Following the departure of Buzz Williams, Texas A&M hired Bucky McMillan as our new men's basketball coach. The 41-year-old coach brings a fast-paced, attacking style of play that made Samford one of the most exciting and entertaining teams in college basketball.



4

## WOMEN'S TENNIS WINS 4TH STRAIGHT SEC REGULAR SEASON TITLE AND BECOMES NATIONAL RUNNER UP

The defending national champs added their fourth straight SEC Regular Season Championship when they defeated the #1 Georgia Bulldogs in the final match of the season. The ladies earned the number one overall seed in the NCAA Tournament and won five matches to advance to the national championship match.



# 5

## MEN'S HOOPS BEATS #1 AUBURN

For the first time in program history, the Texas A&M men's basketball team defeated the number one team in the Associated Press Top 25. In front of a sold out crowd in Reed Arena, the Aggies took down the Auburn Tigers 83-72. It was the first time in ten attempts that an Aggie men's hoops squad had beaten the number one team.



6

## VOLLEYBALL BEATS DEFENDING NATIONAL CHAMP TU IN AUSTIN

In a thrilling five set match, the Aggies defeated the #7 longhorns in Austin. It was their first victory over the horns since 2010. The Ags fought off two match points before adding two of their own to clinch the victory. The team earned a 3-2 victory (25-27, 25-14, 23-25, 25-21, 18-16).



7

## WADE TAYLOR'S JERSEY HUNG FROM THE REED ARENA RAFTERS

Following the upset victory of #1 Auburn, the men's basketball program unveiled the #4 jersey of Wade Taylor IV. This recognition makes him only the second player to receive this honor, joining Acie Law IV. At the end of the season, Taylor became Texas A&M's all-time leading scorer with 2,058 points.



8

## SHEMAR STEWART TAKEN IN THE FIRST ROUND OF THE NFL DRAFT

Defensive end Shemar Stewart was selected 17th overall in the first round of the NFL Draft by the Cincinnati Bengals. Stewart vaulted up draft boards after an impressive NFL combine where experts touted his potential based on his athletic testing results and impressive physical attributes.



# 9

## VOLLEYBALL SWEET 16 RUN

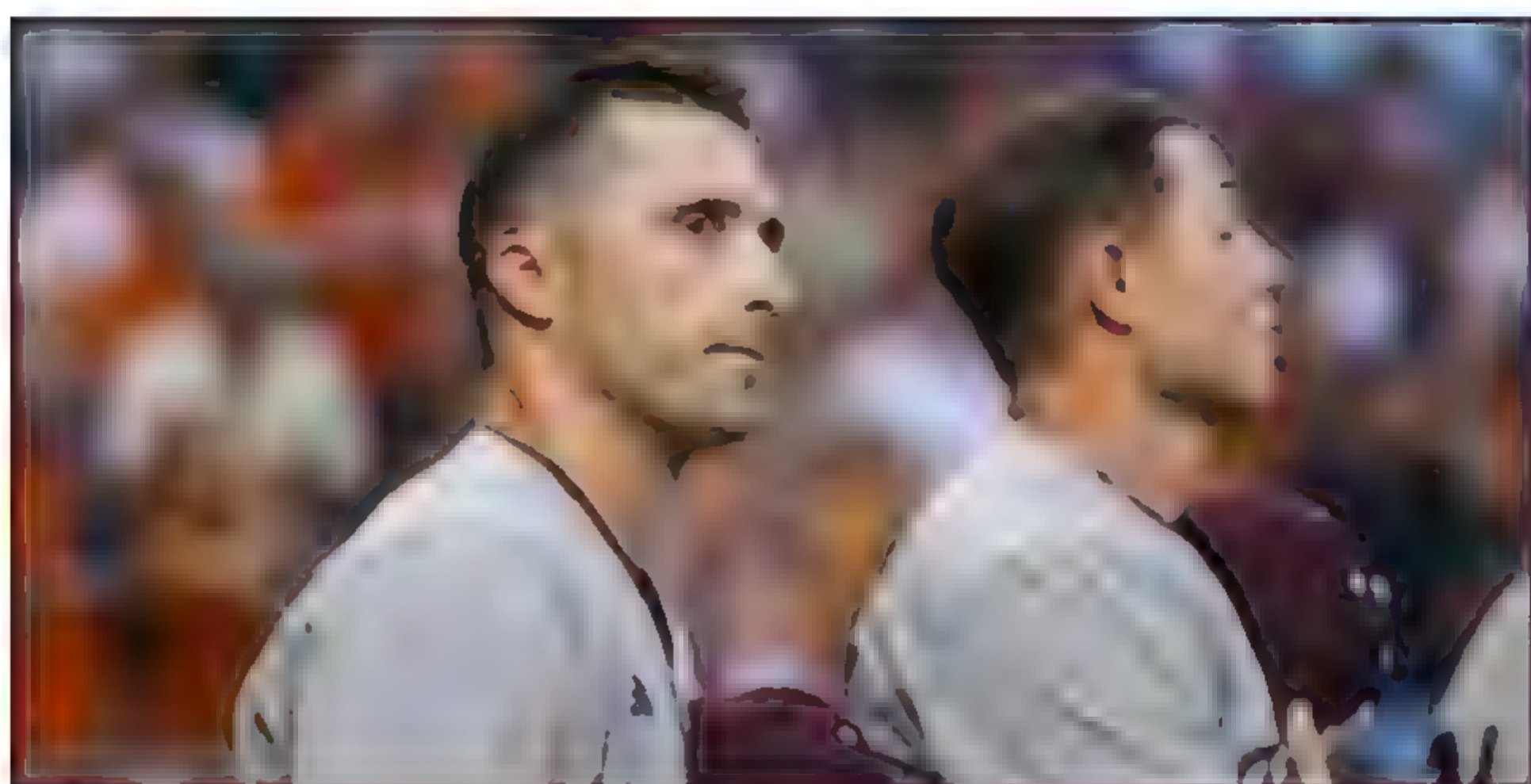
It took new head coach Jamie Morrison just two seasons to get the Aggies back to the Sweet 16. The ladies came just two points shy of earning a spot in the Elite 8 after a five set match against two seed Wisconsin. The team went 21-8, notching the most wins since the 2019 season.



# 10

## SOFTBALL EARNS PROGRAM'S FIRST OVERALL ONE SEED

After a stellar campaign against the nation's best conference, our softball team was selected as the overall one seed for the first time in program history. The Aggies went 16-7 in SEC play and were named co-champs of the SEC Tournament after inclement weather had ended the tournament. Texas A&M hammered the eventual national champion Longhorns in the semifinals of the SEC Tournament 14-2 in 5 innings.



# 11

## AGGIE BASEBALL WINS SERIES OVER LSU, ARKANSAS, AND TENNESSEE

It was not the season we hoped for, but the baseball team still had some shining moments as they took down LSU, Arkansas and Tennessee in the regular season series. The Tigers would go on to win the national championship and the Hogs would finish in the final four of the College World Series. But the Aggies beat LSU 3-1 in game one and 6-4 in game three to take the series. In Arkansas, the Aggies took game one 7-4 and 9-2 in game three.

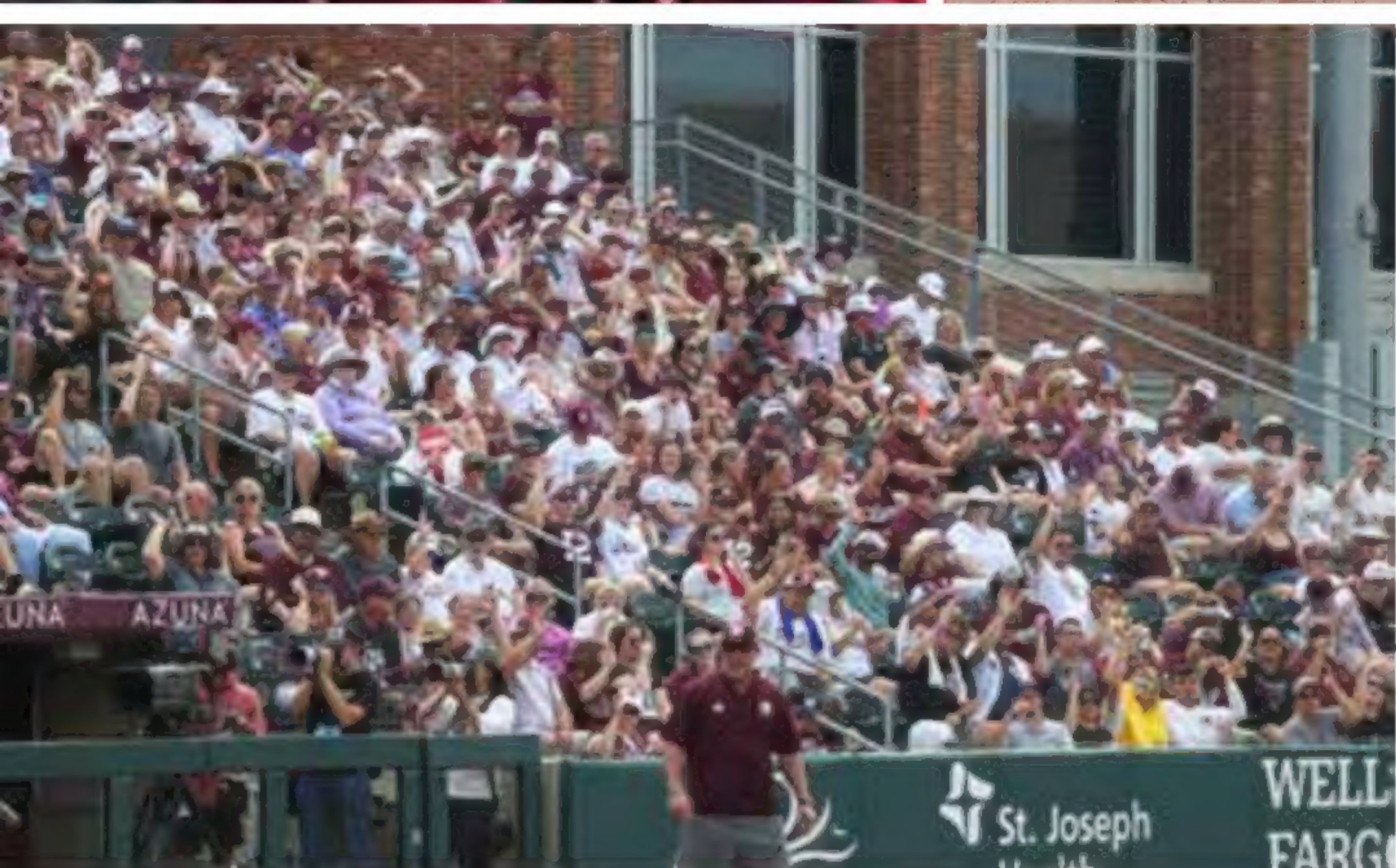


# 12

## MEN'S TENNIS EARNS SWEET 16 SPOT

Men's tennis hosted the first two rounds of the NCAA tournament and defeated Rice and #19 Baylor to earn a spot in the Sweet 16. With the match tied at three, freshman sensation Theo Papamalamis won a three set thriller to clinch the match. The Aggies would fall to the eventual national champ Wake Forest team in the third round.





# THE 12TH MAN

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